

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT 10/531759

REC'D 04 JAN 2005

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

WIPO PCT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference AH:TJS:JL:FP18506	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).	
International Application No. PCT/AU2003/001415	International Filing Date (day/month/year) 24 October 2003	Priority Date (day/month/year) 24 October 2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ G02B 6/00, F21V 8/00, F21S 11/00, 8/00		
Applicant UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 16 sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 16 March 2004	Date of completion of the report 14 December 2004
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer GREG POWELL Telephone No. (02) 6283 2308

I. Basis of the report**1. With regard to the elements of the international application:***

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
Pages 1-11 , received on 23 November 2004 with the letter of 22 November 2004
- ☒ the claims, pages , as originally filed,
pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,
pages , filed with the demand,
Pages 12-16 , received on 23 November 2004 with the letter of 22 November 2004
- ☒ the drawings, pages 1/3-3/3 , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages , as originally filed
pages , filed with the demand
pages , received on with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig.

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-27	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-27	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-27	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

The following documents identified in the International Search Report have been considered for the purposes of this report:

- D1) US 6272265 B1
- D2) US 4612144 A
- D3) US 4991918 A
- D4) US 4688884 A
- D5) US 20020031300 A1
- D6) US 4650279 A
- D7) US 5832150 A

Novelty (N) and Inventive Step (IS)

Claims 1-27 appear to be novel in the light of prior art documents cited in the International Search Report. None of the above cited documents discloses a second solid rounded portion and an intermediate portion being at least in part hollow. In particular, documents D2-D3 do not disclose the feature of a second solid rounded portion and documents D1 and D4-D7 do not disclose the feature of a hollow intermediate portion.

It is considered that combining the features of documents D2 or D3 with the features of documents D1 or D4-D7 would not be obvious to a person skilled in the art. It is also considered that combining of the following three features would not readily occur to a person skilled in the art of light guides:

- i) a first portion being substantially flat
- ii) a second solid and rounded portion
- iii) an intermediate portion being at least in part hollow

The above combination of features provides a useful alternative to the existing light transfer components, in particular in the field of solar illumination of interiors.

Consequently, the subject matter of Claims 1-27 appears to meet the criteria set forth in PCT Articles 33(2) and 33(3) for novelty and inventive step.

Industrial Applicability (IA)

All of the claims appear to be industrially applicable in the field of light transfer components and in particular in the field of solar illumination of interiors.